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RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE

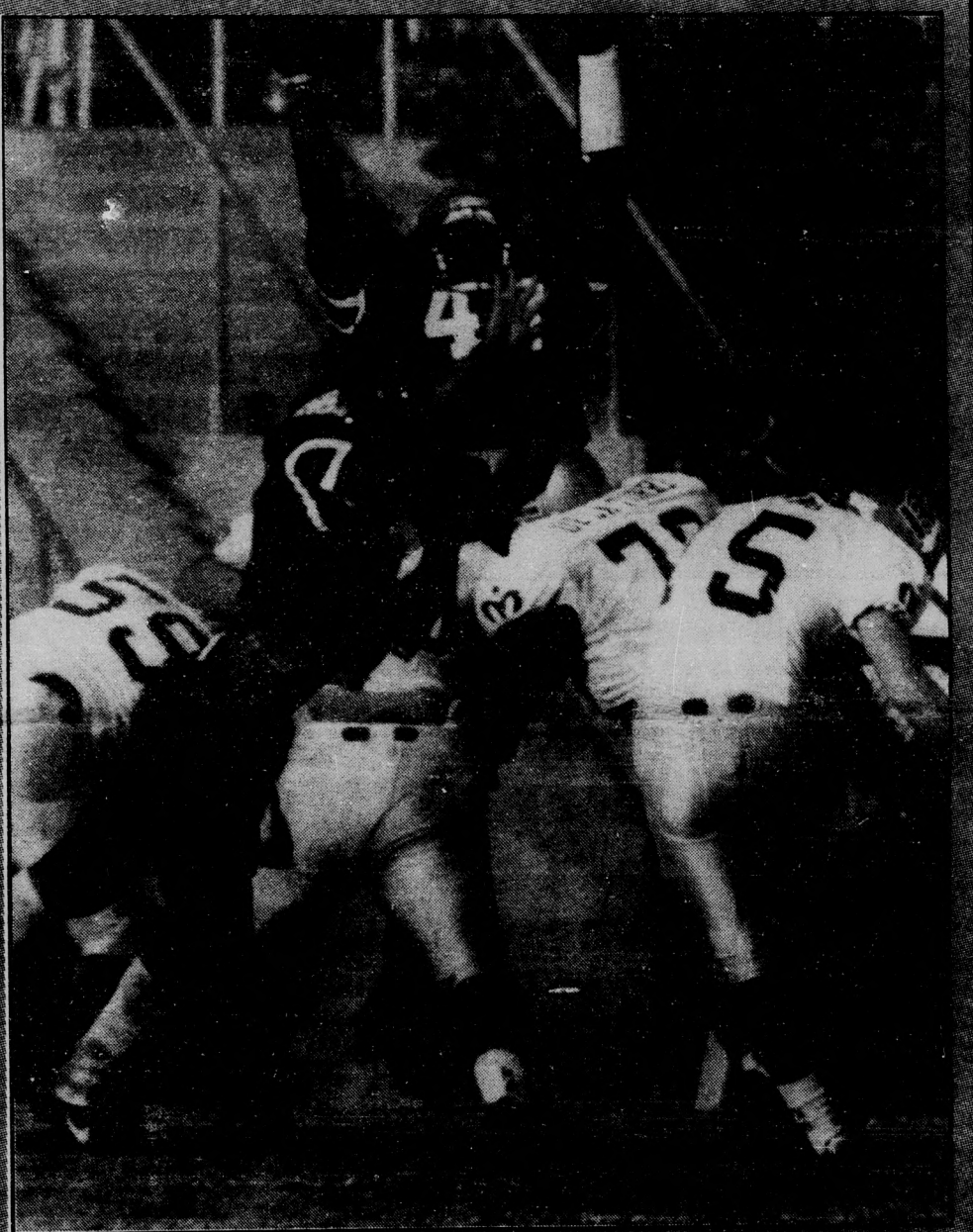
el Don

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Friday, December 9, 1994

It's Over...



# O.C files for bankruptcy

## RSC invested \$16.8 million with county, future unclear

By Steve Castaneda  
el Don Editor in Chief

**I**n a stunning move Orange County, one of the nation's largest and wealthiest, filed for Chapter 9 Bankruptcy Tuesday, Dec. 6.

The move came after an all day stand-off with Wall Street investors insisting that the county pay its \$1.2 billion in loans to its troubled investment pool.

Over 185 cities, school districts and other agencies are in the investment pool, which had its investments frozen and withdrawals restricted. It is unclear what debts the county will pay.

The county said that employees will be paid and operations will continue as usual, but some questions were raised about major projects in the county, from toll roads to a Disneyland expansion.

At this time, many school and city officials have calculated that they might run out of monies soon if they cannot claim it from the fund.

RSC has invested about \$16.8 million in the Orange County Investment Fund, however officials say the college is at no risk.

"As far as I understand, it the investments were not voluntary investments," said Pete Maddox, President of RSC's Board of Trustees. "RSC was told by the state that the money must become part of the county fund. This has to do with the accounting code state system."

"RSC employees are our top priority right now. The bankruptcy will have no effect on the payroll and all staff and employees will get paid."

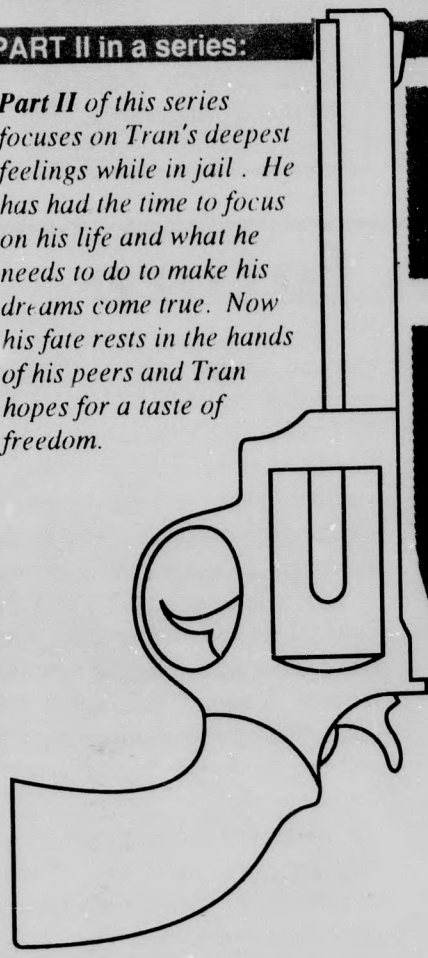
According to Maddox, the board and administration are exploring the option of paying RSC employees through its reserve fund if the county could not.

"The only problem with paying the employees through our reserve fund is that it is also invested into the county fund," said Maddox.

This is the first time in history that a county has claimed bankruptcy," said RSC Chancellor, Vivian Blevins. "I'm used to hearing about private institutions claiming bankrupt-  
Please see FUND, Page 2

PART II in a series:

Part II of this series focuses on Tran's deepest feelings while in jail. He has had the time to focus on his life and what he needs to do to make his dreams come true. Now his fate rests in the hands of his peers and Tran hopes for a taste of freedom.



# FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE

RSC student Tu Tran

stands accused of

killing his best friend

By Steve Castaneda  
el Don Editor in Chief

**M**r. Lund showed me a copy of the police report. It states that Chu and I attacked this guy and beat him up. It claims that we went for the guy's gun and we maced him. The man also claims that the clip from the gun was not in place and he had to load it before he shot us.

"How can the police believe this story?" Tran asked. "If the guy was as badly beaten up and maced as he said he was, it would have given us time to run away from him before he started shooting."

According to the police report, witnesses claim that Chu and Tran ran in different directions and the shooter got off four rounds.

"If you were maced could you load a gun, get off four shots and have two bullets hit Chu and one hit me? I don't think anyone could."

Because Tran had cigarette burn marks and tattoos that he says commemorate the death of his mother in Vietnam when he was 17, police have labeled him a gang member, and created this entire scenario as a gangland attack on a helpless security guard.

"I have never run with gangs," said Tran. "The pain in my heart about the death of my mother is always constant. The burn marks and the tattoos are all I have to ease the pain in my heart for her. She was everything to me."

Please see TRAN, Page 3



## Campus / Briefly

### 14th Annual Winter Solstice

The 14th Annual Academic Computing Center (ACC) Winter Solstice Party will take place Thursday, Dec. 15, from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in L-207.



There will be a demonstration of the first accredited college course delivered solely on CD-ROM.

There will also be a variety of food from Roma D'Italia pizza, ACC chili and more. Prize drawings will take place at 12:30 and 2:00 p.m.

### Fairfield U. Students Fight Against Racist Slurs

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (CPS) -- In response to a recent outbreak of racist graffiti on campus, students at Fairfield University have come together to show that those responsible for the offensive scrawling are acting alone.



After signing a pledge to remain open and tolerant toward other backgrounds and lifestyles, students, faculty members and school administrators receive "Fairfield

Together!" buttons, which are meant to show disapproval of the racist graffiti.

The idea to promote campus unity through the "Fairfield Together!" buttons came from students and faculty members, said Murray Farber, spokesperson for the university. So far more than 3,000 students have signed the pledge and are wearing their buttons. Fairfield has 4,300 students.

### Employers Project Increase In Hiring, Campus Visits

BETHLEHEM, Penn. (CPS) -- Employers plan to hire more college graduates this year than they did last year, according to a recent survey by the college Placement Council.

Overall, respondents project hiring 4.2 percent more graduates in 1994-95 than they actually hired in 1993-94.



And there is more good news: a slightly higher number of employers plan on recruiting for job candidates at college and university campuses. More than 34 percent of the employers responding to the survey plan to increase the number of campuses they will visit, while 40 percent plan to maintain the same number of scheduled visits as

last year.

The net effect: Employers plan to visit 1.2 percent more campuses in the 1994-95 recruiting season than they visited last year.

-Compiled by Darlyn Lee

### Mailbox Policy

The el Don encourages expression of all views. Letters should be brief and to the point. All letters should include your student ID number and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Letters to el Don may be delivered to room C-201, or mailed to RSC el Don, Mailbox, 17th and Bristol streets, Santa Ana, CA 92706.

Unsigned editorials are the opinions of the editorial board of el Don and do not necessarily reflect the views of Rancho Santiago College. Opinions with a byline are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of el Don or Rancho Santiago College.

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### Blown Out...



el Don Photo

Santa Ana winds swept through the southland Thursday causing havoc with students preparing for final exams. The winds are expected to die out this weekend.

## FUND: RSC monies ok

Continued from Page 1

cy, but I would have never guessed a county such as this would go under. Everyone is in uncharted territory and is waiting to see what happens next." According to Blevins, everything is still up in the air as far as which funds will be lost from the RSC district.

"Issues like retirement benefits and reserve funds must be discussed with the county. All these funds were tied up in our investments," said Blevins.

"What is really frustrating is that we were required to invest our money into this account and now we are suffering for that." The Chavez Business/Technology Building and the Orange Campus expansion

projects are still underway, but eventually we will lose some money," said Blevins. "We will lose a percentage of every dollar we spend in construction and other expansion projects that were being funded through the county."

Blevins along with all other college and school officials, will attend a meeting to oversee what is to become of all school district funds invested into Orange County.

"This will have a different long term affect on our campus because of all the contracting we do with county offices," said Blevins. "Many of these contracts will be cut because of this I know, but it will be the students that lose out in the long run."

#### FUND FACTS

■ Rancho Santiago College has nearly \$16.8 million invested in the countywide fund.

■ All construction projects at RSC are not effected by the fund.

■ Officials say payroll for employees will be met by using existing monies if county fails.

■ RSC is in no immediate financial danger.

## TRAN: focusing on future

Continued from Page 1

Tran's family lives in Colorado and has always been an important part of his life.

"I am a recent immigrant, having arrived in the U.S. in 1988. I lived in Iowa and Colorado with my father and later with foster parents."

Before the incident, Tran was planning to continue his education in Iowa.

"There is nothing left in California for me. The racism and prejudice in Orange County is unbelievable, especially by the police departments. I can't wait to get away from here. Hopefully I will."

Tran has the support of his trigonometry professor, Li Ren Fong, an RSC instructor.

"Tran is a great student," said Fong. "He is a hard worker and has been wrongly accused."

According to Fong, Tran was pursuing an associate's degree in Physical Education at RSC. He does not believe Tran is a gang member. He and Tran's fellow students have signed petitions attesting to his good character.

"I plan to testify as a character witness at Tran's trial," said Fong. "He does not belong in this situation."

"Mr. Fong is like my father," said Tran. "He has always been by my

side and strongly believes that justice will be served."

Tran believes that these situations occur because of society's views on gangs and immigrants.

"The police have classified me as something I am not and it hurts me."

"Last semester at RSC I took 21 units. I was a great student who focused on the future, but now the District Attorney has asked the judge to keep me in prison for life without the possibility of parole. I'm desperate."

"I ask myself every day why God spared my life," said Tran. "There must be a reason why I didn't die. I guess only God knows why."



# LAUREL HOUSE

## Shelter provides hope to runaway teens

By R.B. Connolly  
el Don Staff Writer

Think of missionaries and you may picture some good samaritans preaching the gospel in a remote South American village or Albert Schweitzer practicing medicine in the jungles of Africa.

But in the land of plenty that is Orange County, such a place can be found--on a quiet residential street in Tustin.

Laurel House is an emergency shelter for runaway teens. It is a safe haven to go to when life at home, however seemingly secure, becomes unendurable. If it did not exist, the teens residing there might take to living on the streets or in cheap motels.

Laurel House came about as the vision of a school nurse who, in the 1980s, saw the need to address the growing social phenomenon of teenage runaways. It was founded by the nurse, with the aid of her friends and their pastor, and has been in operation for nine years.

Walk through the front door of Laurel House at dinner time and you will think you're in almost any other household with teenagers. The house is a bit more noisy perhaps, but you'll hear the familiar sounds of home: ringing phones, lively discussion, a video game, the grunts of concentration over homework. The attraction of Laurel House is that it tries to be like home, if not better, in the sense that this is a place where judgments won't be placed and where the road to emotional healing can begin for teenagers and their parents.

This licensed facility has the capacity to house up to six residents at one time. Currently the enrollment is five--four young women and one

young man. Residents must attend regular high school and every effort is made to keep their normal daily routines unchanged while living at Laurel House.

Supervision is provided by two house parents, the husband-and-wife team of Melissa and Snorri Milne Ogata. They live full-time at the house, receiving one weekend a month off when they can get away to renew their spirits.

While only in their early 30's, both Melissa and Snorri have made helping young adults a lifetime commitment and ministry. Their past young-adult ministry work has prepared them for their current calling, which both of them handle with openness and discipline. The Ogatas' 3-year-old son also lives at the house. While the presence of a toddler in such an environment may be astonishing to some, Melissa assured me that all the applicants are thoroughly screened. She is not going to jeopardize the safety of her son, she says.

Since Laurel House is not a 24-hour care facility with resident medical staff, it cannot accommodate teens who are drug or alcohol dependent, have violent personality disorders or other deeper emotional problems.

While Laurel House strives to meet the physical needs of the teens, along with the need for a safe shelter, many of the residents are starving for understanding, affection, purpose, and love. Being a teenager is not easy. Pressures, elementary as they may be, can be overwhelming. Snorri handles the task of being a father-figure with sensitivity and tolerance.

An emphasis is put on learning responsibilities and self-reliance. Residents must perform all the

household chores like meal preparation, vacuuming, and bed-making. Sometimes performing these simple domestic tasks are a first for the residents.

Although Christian in its character, the Ogatas do not evangelize to the residents. The teens, however, are expected to attend weekly Bible class and are exposed to the Christian philosophy through being asked to perform acts of charity. Weekly, they take off in the house van to assist with feeding the homeless who congregate around the Civic Center in Santa Ana.

And just what are these teens' problems? Well, a lack of understanding at home can be dominant. To many parents the teenage years come as a complete shock. Efforts

to cope with changes in their child's personality can baffle most parents.

Some of the teenage residents of Laurel House come from large families where they get a little lost in the shuffle. Some are only children who are being smothered by love. Others are from single-parent homes where mom is dependent on welfare to survive.

Economics do not play the role one might suspect in the teenagers' situations. Parents totally dedicated to career with no time left to guide their kids through this difficult period can be just as damaging as physical abuse. Many of Laurel House's residents can be considered victims of parents' successes. That is why a major part of the

house's program involves therapy sessions for both teen and parent. Parents are also asked to pay a modest, sliding scale fee for their children and to be responsible for the teen's transportation needs.

To keep its Christian character, Laurel House is independently funded and relies on the fees paid by parents. It does not rely on government or state monies. As its annual budget is under \$130,000, Laurel House does rely on the help of volunteers.

All volunteers are finger-printed and their backgrounds checked. There is always a need for volunteers, particularly for males. Also the need for volunteer services such as roofing and flooring are always in demand.

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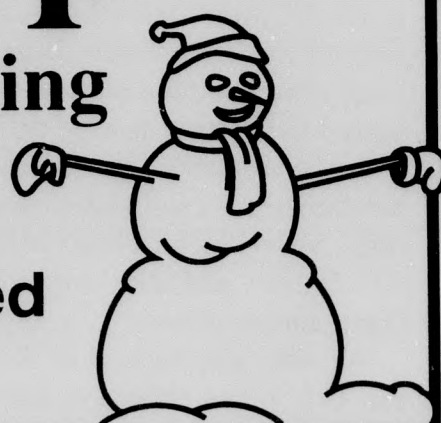
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## Staff Editorials

### Gingrich, what world do you live in?

It worries us that the Republican Party can't find anyone better than Newt Gingrich to act as Speaker of the House. The guy must have aching jaws from the amount of times his feet have been in his mouth.

While continuing his tradition of irresponsible remarks, Gingrich has once again had to defend his welfare reform plan which would stop aid to unwed mothers who don't name a father on their child's birth certificate. It would also stop welfare to children born out of wedlock to women under the age of 18. The money saved, according to Gingrich, could go to supporting these very children in state-run orphanages.

We guess that Gingrich hasn't had time to really study the consequences of such a plan, because there is no other excuse for the ignorance on which this plan is based on. Often times, the father's name is left off the birth certificate because the mother doesn't want him to know about the birth of the child. The father could have been an abuser of drugs, beat the mother, or his existing children, and the mother only wants to protect the child from the abuse she is fearful will come if he is notified of the birth.

Gingrich told his critics to watch the 1930s movie "Boys Town" to get an idea of what he wants to do with children born to women under the age of 18. "Boys Town" showed the auspicious side of orphanages. Children growing up without parents usually don't end up thinking of their childhood with fond memories. Despite what conservatives might say, one parent is better than no parent at all.

We hope that enough people will become disgusted enough with Gingrich and his ignorance to expel him from power before the rest of the world thinks all Americans are as unenlightened as he.



## Staff Editorials

### Let's keep this crisis in perspective . . .

Orange County residents have a lot to worry about thanks to Robert Citron, former County Treasurer/Tax Collector. Citron, who resigned Tuesday, is being blamed for the \$1.5-billion nosedive in the county's investment portfolio. The money is tied up in bad investments that Citron placed over the 24 years he served in his post.

The public is just as responsible for this crisis as Citron is. After all, we did keep re-electing him to office. We also knew that he was involved in risky investments, yet as long as he was making money for us, we looked the other way. The only difference is that now Citron's investments aren't making the money they once did. Even after knowing all that, voters agreed to continue having their tax money go towards high-risk investments instead of solid low-risk securities. So let's not act like victims in this disaster and take some of the blame for ourselves.

We are disappointed in the fact that Citron has chosen to abandon



ship instead of sticking around to help clean up the mess. His assistants, who will be taking up the slack, only knew so much about what Citron did. The rest will have to be determined by an army of auditors

who will be paid with our desperately-needed tax dollars. Citron may have had more public support if he would have had the guts to admit defeat, and asked for help from his peers and the public.

## View Point

By Chris Locke  
el Don Opinion Editor

### That's the news and I'm outta here

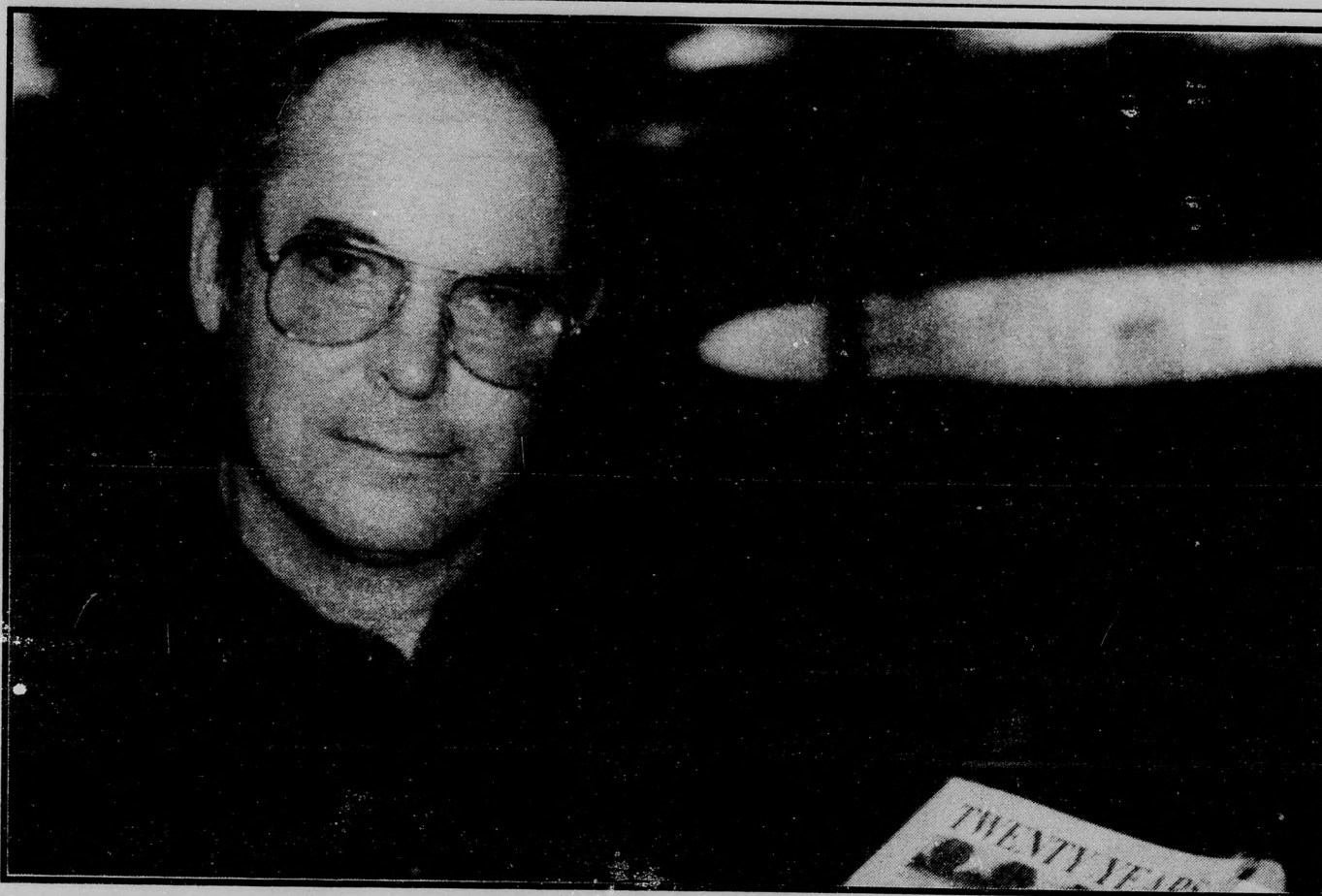
Well guys, I'm moving on. These past two semesters have taught me that every person walking by me on this campus has a story to tell. I'm glad that I was able to tell a few of those stories, and share my views through the editorials of the el Don.

Writing is not for the lighthearted, as many people have found. You are constantly exposing yourself to criticism, and believe me, everyone is an armchair editor when they don't like what you've written.

Yet the friendships I have built in the past couple of semesters can't be replaced. I guess by having your guts ripped out by fellow editors as they critique your story to pieces tends to lend itself to bonding relationships. But, you know what? I wouldn't have changed it for the world. The el Don Opinion Page will be with me always, as will the people I worked with.

If you've ever craved seeing your name in print, sign up for a semester's worth of newspaper writing. You'll never forget what you learn. Goodbye and all of you fellow psycho writing junkies. I'll miss you.





# Poetic Justice

By Gina Reidinger

**T**he same hands that mended the mortal wounds of men in combat now heal the spiritual wounds of those same soldiers still fighting for their lives.

Inspired by a friend and encouraged by an RSC English professor, former RSC student, John Harrell, wrote and published *Twenty Years*, a book of poetry chronicling his experiences in Vietnam.

An administrative officer with the AMERICAL Division stationed in a small village just north of Da Nang, Harrell soon experienced the emotional trials of treating casualties of war.

"We were a medical company. My job was to receive injuries straight out of the field, triage them, treat them and get them ready for transportation to a regular hospital," he said.

"When you're in a small medical unit and get lots of casualties, everyone helps. We were living underground, in bunkers, that's where we treated them. It wasn't clean - no fancy surgical gowns or gloves - it was as clean as we could keep it. This is just how medicine works in combat," he said.

Working around the clock, the fatigue took its toll. Harrell and others who worked with the trauma patients, learned to build walls in order to cope. Detachment was necessary in order to survive.

"If someone's bleeding to death, you do what you have to do; you don't think about it. If they have an arm blown off, you clean it up and take care of it, take the shrapnel out and do what's needed," he said.

*Twenty Years* paints a picture of what was real. It's a reality of powerful memories still affecting many veterans today. Often we hear of homeless veterans who can't hold down a job, but Harrell stresses, that is not the majority.

"The silent majority came back, got jobs and raised families. They are your neighbors, they are successful, not

mentally deranged. They are the ones like RSC board of trustee member, Pete Maddox. These are the ones putting pressure on the V.A. to help veterans that are having problems," Harrell said.

Harrell became serious about publishing the book during the Gulf War, but had fears about how it would be received. He didn't want people to misinterpret the contents, take it out of context and use it against the military.

Those fears were unfounded. Veterans were prompted to open up about their own war experiences, which many had been unable to do until the book's publishing. It opened up a bridge of communication between veterans and their civilian counterparts.

The collection of poems has also been an instrumental tool for the V.A. It has been used in group therapy programs and become a cathartic means of expression.

*Twenty Years* has received rave reviews and earned

Harrell the prestigious Veterans Administration Creative Arts Award. In addition, the RSC board of trustees bestowed a certificate of honor to both Harrell, and the book's illustrator, Phillip "Moki" Martin.

"This was one of the highlights of my life, a great achievement," Harrell said.

Harrell learned much about others during his military career from which he retired in 1992.

"There are good people everywhere. Their culture may be different, their language may be different, but everyone has the same aspirations - to make life better. Along the way you see bad things happen, but the good far outweighs the bad. In a way, that's what I'm trying to convey in my poetry," he said.

Harrell's poetry says it best. In a piece titled "Near One Year," he writes: It's storming again. The clouds are dark, rain falls like tears down sorrowful cheeks. The Gods must be crying, saddened that we mortals forget, over and over and over again.

Thank God, John Harrell did not forget.

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***Poet John Harrell has seen  
the horrors of war - his  
book pays tribute to the  
unsung heroes***

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# Feature

PAGE 6

RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE el Don

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1994

## WORKING it OUT

■ RSC program is lending a hand to disabled students in their search for employment.

By John Petito  
el Don Staff Writer

Searching for a job is a full time job, explains Sandy Morris, Program Coordinator of the Workability III Program at RSC. Project Workability III is a state-wide cooperative program between the California Department of Rehabilitation and California's community colleges helping disabled persons find employment.

"We felt there was a great need to assist disabled students transition to the world of work," said Morris.

Morris started the Workability III Program after submitting a grant proposal to the Department of Rehabilitation in 1985. Since then, the program has proven to be a great asset to disabled clients seeking employment.

Participants are given an initial appointment with a career specialist. Work history and employment interests are assessed to determine whether Workability is suitable to the participants' needs and goals.

If appropriate, participants attend a 1 1/2 day Job Search seminar to learn basic job-seeking skills.

After successfully completing the seminar, participants join the program's Job Club which meets from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in U107 Monday through Thursday. The sessions last eight weeks or until a job is found.

In the Job Club students find job leads, call prospective employers, arrange interviews and engage in other activities leading to successful employment.

On-staff career specialists like Carol Mattson have experience in labor market trends and emerging career areas.

"We identify a client's skills and aptitudes and develop employment goals based on the individual's skills, interests, and other relevant factors," said Mattson.

Along with a clerical staff, career specialists help the students write resumes and cover letters, practice for job interviews, improve their speaking and listening skills and often contact employers on the students' behalf.

The program also takes advantage of campus resources. "We have a close relationship with the RSC Job Placement Office, which provides us with many job referrals," said Mattson.

Other services Job Club participants receive include instruction in finding unadvertised job leads, printing, mailing, and FAX assistance.

Job Club members often form support networks to help each other in their employment search by sharing job leads

and providing peer support.

"Look beyond the classifieds for hidden job markets" advises Mattson, "Identify the 'fit' with your values, skills and interests. Be prepared and professional and keep a positive attitude. A job search is a full time job."

"This was my first experience applying for work as a disabled person," said former student Vivian Adair. "I was no longer able to do the work I was trained to do. With the Workability Program I had access to positions I hadn't considered before. They also encourage you to keep looking for work when it is so easy to give up and feel sorry for yourself. I feel so much better about myself now that I'm working."

Encouraging participants to be persistent is a must, said Morris.

"We continually try to motivate the students in their job search strategy and when they follow it closely, we've found them to be more successful," she said.

Since the program started approximately 5,700 people have obtained jobs through WAIH assistance in California. The RSC program has exceeded its placement goals each year.

"Last year we placed over 100 disabled students," said Mattson. "We found it took students three times as long due to the poor economy. This year we've already placed everyone. This is an encouraging sign that the economy is picking up."

By the end of the 1993-94 year there will be 35 community colleges in California with WAIH.

"RSC had one of the original programs," said Morris. "We have one of the highest placement rates in the state and host visits from many of the newer programs."

One area in the RSC program that Morris would like to see improved is the program's present location.

"Services are in two different buildings, which requires students to go back and forth between sites. This can be difficult for a physically challenged student," Morris notes. "We hope we will get more space so we can consolidate these services in one location."

RSC student Sharon Shafer started WAIH hoping to find a job repairing Macintosh computers.



Alex Do / el Don Photo

Carol Mattson, Career Specialist, finds suitable jobs for RSC's disabled students.

***"We identify a client's skills and aptitudes, and develop employment goals based on the individual's skills, interests and other relevant factors."***

Carol Mattson  
Career Specialist

"The program has helped me focus my job search, save on FAX transmittals and informed me about rehab benefits I was unaware of," said Shafer.

Shafer found what she was looking for and began working last week as a retail technical specialist repairing computers.

When asked what advice she would give anyone interested in the WAIH program, Shafer said, "Do it! The majority of people who started with me now have jobs."



## Monarchs reign over Dons 36-28 in Simple Green Bowl

### RSC, 9-2, ends season with loss to L.A. Valley

By Chris Jones  
el Don Staff Writer

SANTA ANA - Rancho Santiago's dream season came to an end Saturday as Los Angeles Valley quarterback Jim Arellanes scorched the Dons for a record 430 yards passing and five touchdowns en route to a 36-28 Simple Green Bowl victory at LeBard stadium.

"It's not the way we wanted to end our season," said Don running back Ace Riggins.

Rancho Santiago (9-2) came into the game ranked first in Southern California, fourth in the state and sixth in the nation. The Simple Green Bowl was RSC's first-ever meeting with Los Angeles Valley.

The Dons opened the game with a touchdown to take an early 7-0 advantage. Quarterback Simon Fuentes culminated a 12-play, 77-yard drive with an 11-yard touchdown pass to running back Ace Riggins.

Rancho's misfortunes began on the ensuing kickoff when Casey Wilson sailed his kick out of bounds. Valley took over on the 50-yard line.

Arellanes, ranked first in the state in passing and total yards, quickly made it obvious that he intended to move the ball through the air. Passing eight times - completing five - and handing the ball off only twice, Arellanes moved the Monarchs into position for a 35-yard field goal attempt by Tim Cronk.

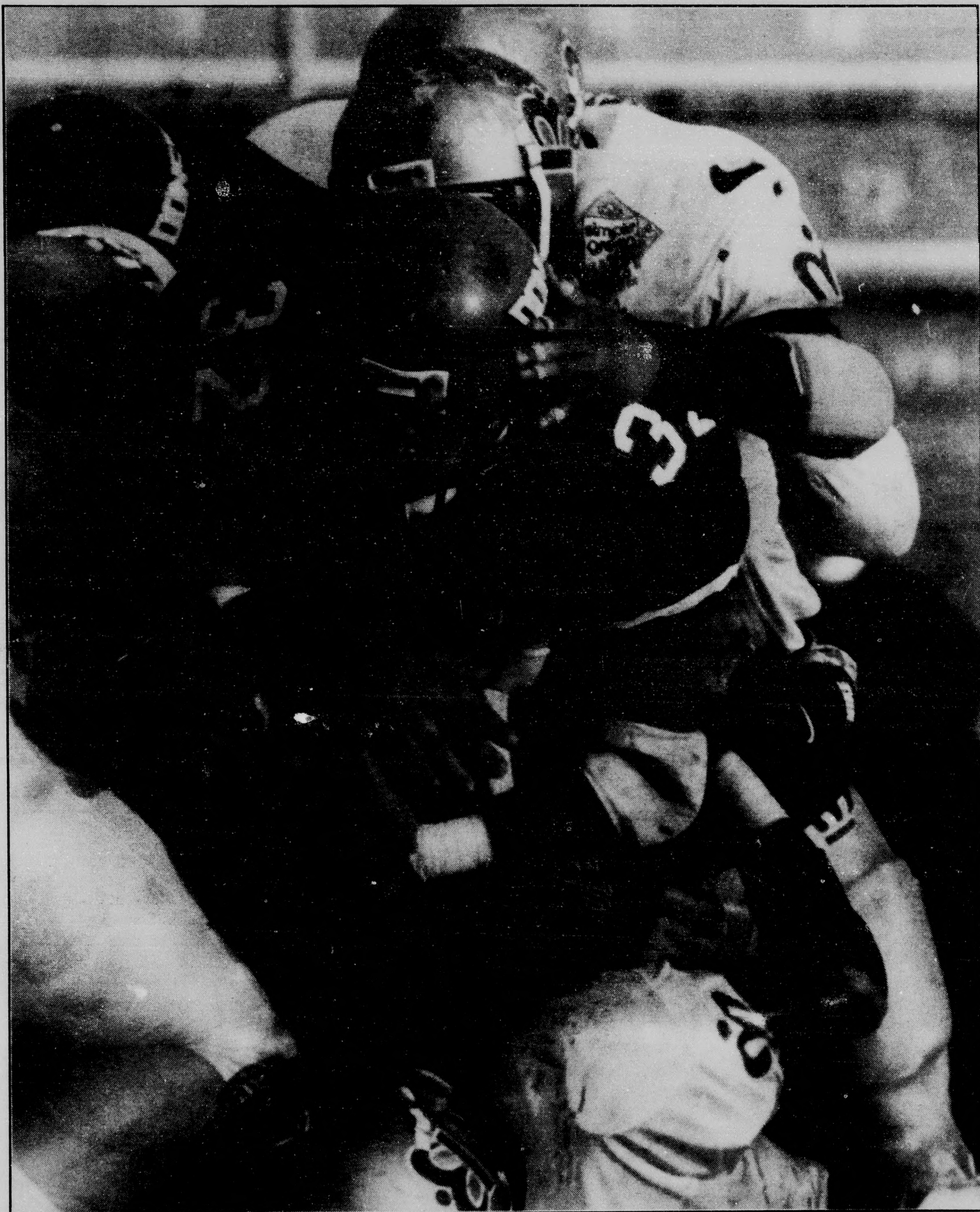
But RSC's Andre Holmes blocked the kick to keep the Dons ahead, 7-0. However, the Monarchs had left an impression on the Rancho defense with their single-back, four wide-receiver, pass-oriented offense.

After trading downs for two series the Monarchs regained possession on their own 45-yard line. Arellanes took advantage of the good field position and began to find holes in the Don secondary. An RSC face mask penalty on a second and long that gave Valley a first down turned the momentum of the game in the Monarchs' favor.

Four plays after the penalty Arellanes found Brian Comer in the end zone tying the score 7-7 at the half.

Don cornerback James Stewart intercepted an Arellanes pass to start the third quarter, setting Rancho up on the Monarch 18. Three plays later Ernie Wilson scored from nine yards out to give the Dons a 14-7 advantage. It was Rancho's last lead of the game.

Valley tied it up when receiver David



#### SLAMMING FORWARD

Dons running back Brian Diaz (32) fights for yardage as a swarm of Los Angeles Valley College defenders hang on. The Dons lost to the Monarchs 36 - 28 Saturday. Rancho finished with a 9 - 2 record and won its first Mission Conference title.

Eastham sprinted past Don cornerback Ed Young and ran down a perfect Arellanes pass for a 72-yard touchdown.

After Arellanes' third touchdown pass, a 10-yard reception by Eastham that gave Valley a 21-14 advantage, Fuentes was picked off by Monarch linebacker Manu Langi. The Monarchs scored again on a 25-yard pass from Arellanes to Cameron Perry. Cronk missed the extra point but Valley led, 27-14.

After an Ernie Wilson touchdown - his second of the day - and a Cronk field goal, the Monarchs led 30-21 early in the fourth quarter.

With its back to the wall, Rancho fought back. After James Stewart's second interception of the day, Fuentes drove his team downfield.

Starting at the RSC two, running backs Ace Riggins and Brian Diaz pounded the ball through the Monarch defensive line. Seventeen plays and 98 yards later, Wilson scored his third touchdown to cut Valley's lead to 30-28 with nine minutes remaining.

But the day belonged to Arellanes. Faced with a third and 32 on his own 18-yard line, the sophomore quarterback heaved a desperation pass which fell

incomplete. But the Dons were called for pass interference, giving the Monarchs a first down.

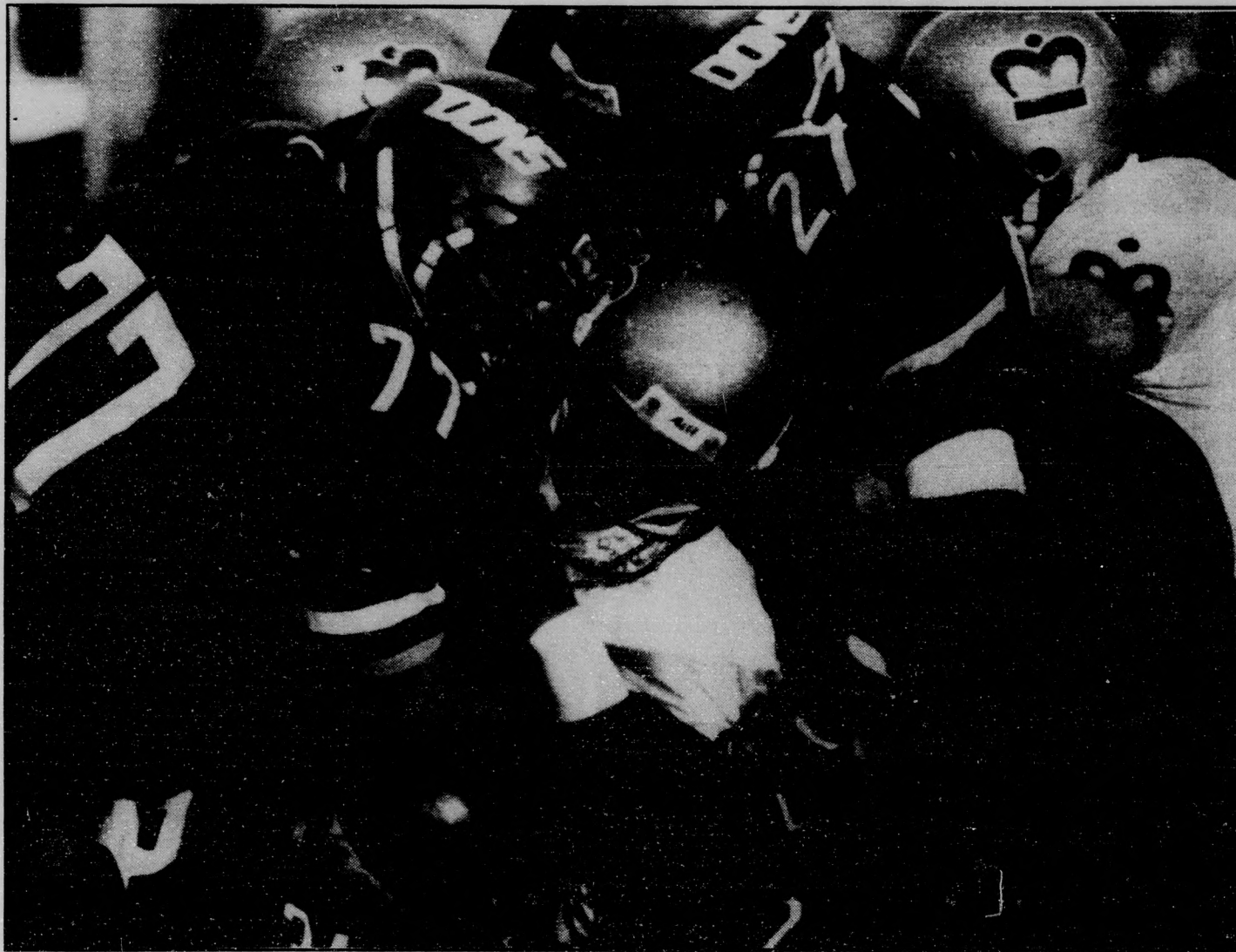
Arellanes then drove the Monarchs 67 yards in nine plays, capping the drive with a seven-yard touchdown pass to Cameron Perry to seal the victory.

"You have to give Valley credit," said Head Coach Dave Ogas. "They played a tremendous game."

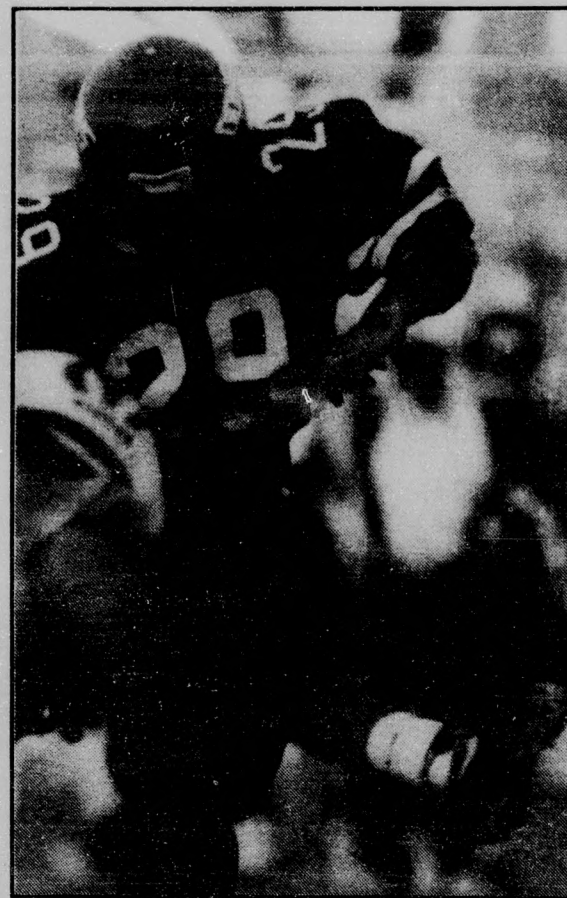
Linebacker Dustin Williams summed it up for the Rancho players.

"This is especially hard to take being our last game of the season," said Williams.





**Above:** Dons line-backer Jose Turner (77) and defensive back Henry Watson (27) tackle a Monarch ball carrier. **Left:** Coach of the Year Dave Ogas stays in constant contact with his assistant coaches perched high atop the press box.



Freshman Casey Wilson kicks off following a Dons touchdown in Saturday's Simple Green Bowl Game at LeBarb Stadium. Wilson converted all four Rancho TDs.

# Great Season Sad Ending

Photos by Steve Castaneda & E.J. Campbell



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